



## “HOME OF THE WORLD’S WORST WEATHER LIVE”

ACTIVITY SHEET: Monday, May 18, 2020

### Squalls, Supercells and Derechos



Above: A rotating supercell thunderstorm churns across the late-evening sky near Imperial, Nebraska, on Monday, May 27, 2019. Image credit: Mike Coniglio, NOAA National Severe Storms Laboratory. ([Excellent wunderground.com blog associated with this severe storm outbreak](#)).

Since 1932, scientists living at the top of Mt. Washington, New Hampshire have been collecting weather data used in forecasting and climate research. How do they do it?

In this program we will learn all about a few different types of severe storms that rarely strike Mount Washington, but when they do, their impact is incredible: **Squalls, Supercells & Derechos!**

### Severe Weather 101:

Visit the [National Severe Storms Laboratory](#) and define our three types of Severe Storms:

- *What is a squall line?*
- *What is a supercell?*
- *What are all of the potential components of a “classic” supercell?*
- *What is a derecho?*
- *What types of severe storms do you typically see in your region?*
- *What is the most destructive type of severe storm you think you have witnessed?*

### Severe Thunderstorm Safety:

Go to the [National Weather Service’s page about thunderstorm safety](#) and answer the following:

- *What is the definition of a “severe” thunderstorm according to NWS?*
- *What are some of the hazards associated with severe thunderstorms?*
- *Choose one hazard and list ways to prepare for and stay safe during a severe t-storm:*

### Storm Prediction Center (SPC):

Visit the SPC’s website and [choose this link to see today’s Day 1 Convective Outlook](#). Answer the following:

- *What is the highest threat category on the map for today’s convective outlook and where is it located?*

- *Hover over the upper left hand corner of the map and see how the map changes when you hover over “Tornado”, “Wind” and “Hail”: what do you notice about these threats?*
- *EXTRA CREDIT: Scroll to the bottom of the page and read one of the forecaster’s discussions about a region’s severe weather threat.*
  - *What weather terms have you learned before, which ones are new? Look up a term you don’t know and define it here:*
- *Based on what you’ve learned about severe storms so far, what questions do you still have?*

A yellow poster with a black background. At the top, the text "When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!" is written in large, bold, yellow letters. To the right of the text is a yellow lightning bolt striking a cloud. Below the text, the word "STOP" is underlined in black, followed by "all activities." in black. Below that, the text "Seek shelter in a substantial building or hard-topped vehicle." is written in black. Further down, "Wait 30 minutes after the storm to resume activities." is written in black. At the bottom left is the NOAA logo, and at the bottom right is the National Weather Service logo. In the center, the website "www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov" is written in black.

**When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!**

**STOP all activities.**

Seek shelter in a substantial building or hard-topped vehicle.

Wait 30 minutes after the storm to resume activities.

[www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov](http://www.lightningsafety.noaa.gov)

*If you want to have your questions answered by Weather Observers at Mount Washington Observatory, join us for our "Home of the World's Worst Weather Live" programs on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:15 AM Eastern on our Facebook page and submit a question during the program! Can't make it live? We'll have recorded versions of the programs available after they air on our webpage [MountWashington.org/classroom](http://MountWashington.org/classroom). If you'd like to send your question in ahead of time, email [Education@mountwashington.org](mailto:Education@mountwashington.org) and we'll try our best to answer your question live from the summit!*

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